



DOOM

2099

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7
JUL

UK 95p

APPROVED
BY THE
COMICS
CODE
AUTHORITY



HER
NAME
IS...

PALOMA



too bad, doom--you and your boy
wandered into the wrong part
of cyberspace--

--so very certain you could
find and destroy the virus
infecting your armor.

oh, but the tremors in your
electronic heart were caused
not by a mere bug created
by a disgruntled corporate
peon--

--rather they are the
results of the inspired
viral sabotage of yours
truly--

Fever.

who else could bring
about your end with
such wicked charm
and vicious wit?

--who else would pit you
against a virtual reality
Fantastic Four, see you
betrayed by the legendary
duke stratosphere--

-- then cut you off
forever from the
real world?

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i hope you said goodbye
to those nearest and
dearest to you.

JOHN FRANCIS WYKE
AT 101
PAT BROOKER
AT 101
JOHN WILSON
AT 101
JOHN COSTANZA
AT 101
CHRISTIE WHEELER
AT 101
JOHN WILSON
AT 101
JOHN WILSON
AT 101

IT'S NO USE. THEY'RE
NOT RESPONDING, XANDRA.
SOMETHING'S BLOCKING
THE NEUROTECH
INTERFACE.

NEURAL
ACTIVITY HAS
FLATLINED.
THEY'RE GONE.

NO!!!

a Region
of
Ether and Sighs!



WIRE, COME ON, DON'T CRASH ON ME. YOU CAN GLIDE BACK. I KNOW YOU CAN, TRUE.

POET, YOU ALWAYS PULL OFF THE LAST MINUTE RESCUES-- DO SOMETHING!



I'M NO CYBER-MEDIC, XANDRA. I CAN BYPASS ACCESS CODES ON MOST SECURITY SYSTEMS--

--BUT I'M NO PROGRAMMER. I CAN'T REFIGURE DOWNED ARCHETYPES IN THE CYBERSPACE GRID.



THE NEUROTECH IN THEIR HEADS PROVIDES THEM A SIXTH SENSE, A CYBER-SENTIENCE-- BUT IT DOES SO BY REROUTING EXTERNAL SENSORY INPUT.

IF THEY'RE LUCKY, THEIR ARCHETYPES WEREN'T DESTROYED. IF NOT--

--THEY'VE CRASHED INTO AN AUTISTIC LIMBO.

I WON'T ACCEPT THAT!



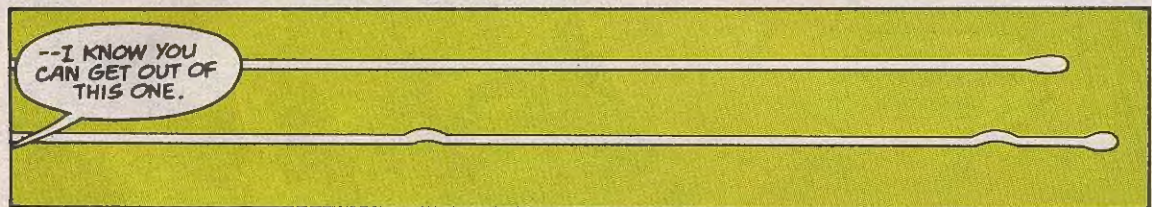
XANDRA...




WE CAN OVERRIDE THE NEURO-TECH-- FORCE THE BODY TO RECONNECT WITH OUTSIDE STIMULI--



BLAST, WYATT, YOU ALWAYS SWORE YOU HAD BACKUP FOR ANY CRISIS IN THE NET--



--I KNOW YOU CAN GET OUT OF THIS ONE.



FEVER...
WON'T... LET...
YOU...

how positively
darling... doom's
lapdog revives
himself--and all
for naught.

you'll be long
dead before
your backup can
circumvent my grasp,
little metallider--

... WHY...

you need a reason for
your imminent and--
i assure you-- unpleasant
demise? very well--

while i take great personal
pleasure from my internet acts
of destruction and mayhem--

in this instance, the pixel
corporation paid me an
obscene price to knock
your latverian knight off
his high horse--

... DOOM...
WILL... STOP...
YOU...

your faith in that
man in the iron mask
is heartwarming--

but doom is in
no shape to stop
anyone--

-- and neither are you,
my impetuous gypsy
child.

with this wormhole, i consign
you and your poorly chosen
companion to cyberspace
oblivion.

the time has come to bid farewell
to your misspent and short-lived
youth.

you're being dumped
in the trash--

-- where your program
archetypes will de-rez
and decay--

-- leaving your physical
bodies to rot in realspace
as mindless wetware.

don't look so hurt--

--you've simply borne
the bad end of a
business transaction--

THE SIGNALS ARE
FAINT, BUT DEFINITELY
THERE. WIRE'S STILL
ON-LINE!

FIND FORTUNE, POET. SHE'LL
KNOW WHAT TO DO! SHE'S GOT
ALL OF LATVERIA'S RESOURCES
AT HER COMMAND--

I'LL GO, BUT BE REALISTIC,
XANDRA. DOOM AND WIRE'S
MINDS ARE LOST IN THE MAZE
OF CYBERSPACE.

I KNOW YOU DON'T
WANT TO HEAR IT, BUT
THEY MAY BE
BEYOND HELP.

I DON'T CARE. I
WON'T JUST LET
HIM FADE AWAY.

HE MEANS
THAT MUCH
TO YOU?

MORE. WE'RE CONNECTED
AT THE SOUL. IF I COULD
TAKE HIS PLACE, I WOULD.

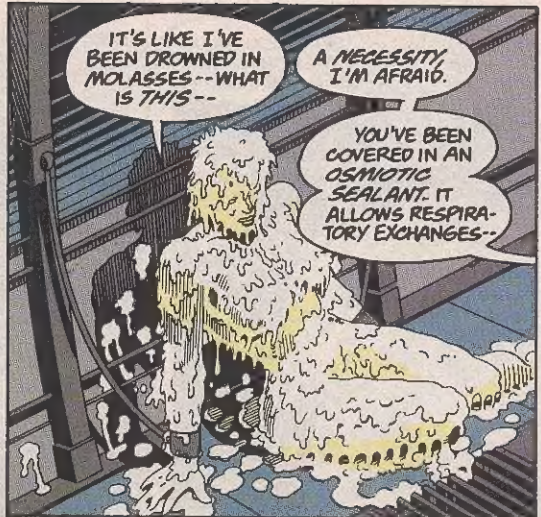
I'D DIE
FOR HIM.

SOMEWHERE ABOVE THE
LEPONTINE ALPS OF
SWITZERLAND.



UGGGH!

YOU'RE
AWAKE?
GOOD.



IT'S LIKE I'VE
BEEN DROWNED IN
MOLASSES--WHAT
IS THIS--

A NECESSITY,
I'M AFRAID.

YOU'VE BEEN
COVERED IN AN
OSMOTIC
SEALANT. IT
ALLOWS RESPIRA-
TORY EXCHANGES--



--WHILE PREVENTING YOUR BODY'S
INFINITE COLLECTION OF BACTERIA
AND GERMS FROM CONTAMINATING
MY CHAMBERS.

I HEAR ENGINES.
WHERE AM I? AND
WHO ARE YOU?



YOU ARE ABOARD
THE PIXEL EXECUTIVE
ZEPPELIN, THE
CICADA.

I AM YOUR
HOST, EDUARDO
DEVARGAS.

DEVARGAS?
I SHOULD HAVE
KNOWN.



HOW DID YOU...

SPIRIT YOU AWAY FROM LATVERIA AND ONTO THE CIGADA?



ALLOW ME TO PRESENT HAZE, SPECIALIST IN PERSONNEL RETRIEVAL.

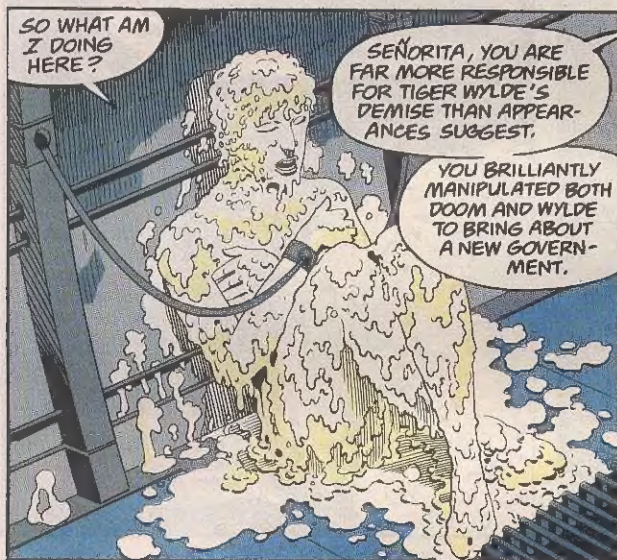
CHARMED, FRAULINO.



HAZE LIBERATED MANY OF PIXEL'S MOST TALENTED EMPLOYEES FROM PREVIOUS CORPORATE COMMITMENTS.

I ALWAYS BRING THEM BACK ALIVE.

WHEN I REQUEST THAT OPTION, OF COURSE.



SO WHAT AM I DOING HERE?

SEÑORITA, YOU ARE FAR MORE RESPONSIBLE FOR TIGER WYLDE'S DEMISE THAN APPEARANCES SUGGEST.

YOU BRILLIANTLY MANIPULATED BOTH DOOM AND WYLDE TO BRING ABOUT A NEW GOVERNMENT.



ALAS, DOOM'S REIGN, TOO, NEARS ITS END, BUT YOU NEED NOT FALL WITH HIM.

WORK FOR ME. YOUR RESOURCEFULNESS WILL NOT BE WASTED AT PIXEL.

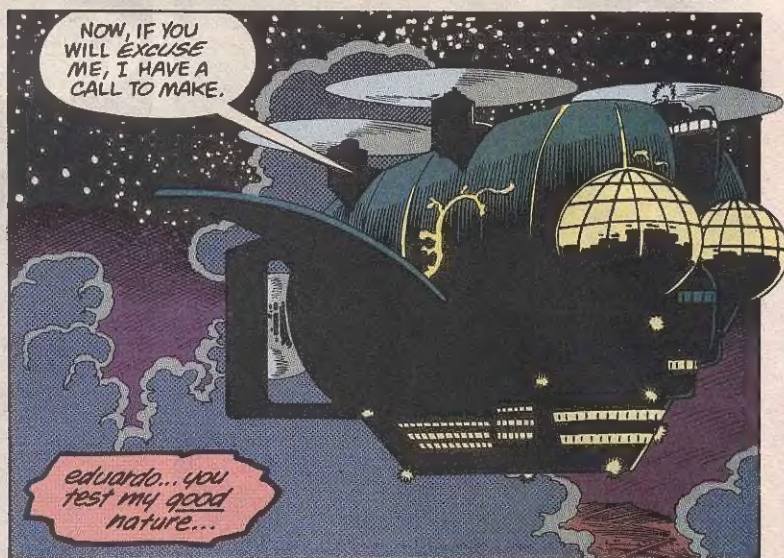
YOU SHANGSHAI ME, COVER ME IN SLUDGE, AND THEN EXPECT ME TO SIGN UP WITH YOU?

YOU CAN TAKE YOUR OFFER AND--




I UNDERSTAND YOUR RELUCTANCE-- GIVEN THE CIRCUMSTANCES OF OUR MEETING.

I AM SURE YOU'LL COME AROUND.



NOW, IF YOU WILL EXCUSE ME, I HAVE A CALL TO MAKE.

eduardo... you test my good nature...



AT A TERMINAL STATION WHOSE LOCATION REMAINS GUARDED AND SECRET, FEVER CONDUCTS HIS ELECTRONIC SYMPHONY OF CHAOS.

INTRAVENOUS NUTRIENT SUPPLIES PROVIDE HIS SUSTENANCE. HIS COMMAND CHAIR MOVES HIS BODY AT RANDOM INTERVALS TO PREVENT MUSCLE ATROPHY.

I NEED TANGIBLE EVIDENCE, FEVER. I CANNOT OCCUPY LATVERIA UNTIL I AM CERTAIN DOOM HAS BEEN ELIMINATED.

IN THIS CONTAINED ENVIRONMENT, HE HAS NO NEED TO DISCONNECT FROM THE NET-- AND NO DESIRE.

OFF LINE, HE IS ANONYMOUS AND IMPOTENT. ON LINE, HE IS DESTRUCTION PERSONIFIED, AND THRIVES ON THE HAVOC HE WREAKS.

right now, doom is nearly lifeless flesh gift wrapped in metal.

if you want to bury the body, have one of your errand boys gladhand the corpse--

--wetware disposal's not in my contract.

MUST YOU ALWAYS BE SO IMPERTINENT?

you didn't hire me for my table manners, eduardo--

our business is complete--

i stole doom's soul--

-- and consigned
it to the abyss.

...FEVER...

...HURT
BEFORE I
COULD
OFFLINE...

...FEEL SLUGGISH...
DIFFICULT TO MOVE...

...ARCHETYPE FAILSAFES
BARELY OPERATING...
NEUROLINK BLOCKED...

FEVER LEFT US
IN THE MIDDLE OF
CYBERSPACE
LIMBO--

WITHOUT DIRECT
CONNECTION TO OUR
CYBER-INTERFACES,
OUR ARCHETYPES
WILL DECAY INTO SO
MANY UNCONNECTED
BYTES.

WIRE'S ARCHETYPE
IS ALREADY FADING...
BECOMING GHOST
LIKE...

BY REBOOTING
HIS ARCHETYPE WITH
MY PROGRAM MEMORIES
-- I CAN REVIVE HIM--

...BUT WITH BARELY ENOUGH
ENERGY TO SUSTAIN ONE
PROGRAM, WE WILL BE
LIKE DIVERS SHARING A
SINGLE TANK OF OXYGEN.

LINGHHH...

LINGH... AM I
SCRAMBLED OR
WHAT... THOUGHT
I COULD HANDLE
THAT LAST
WORMHOLE...

GLAD TO SEE YOU BACK ON LINE. THOUGHT BOTH OF US WERE ZEROED.

WHAT OF THESE PROGRAM ICONS?

IF THESE ARE OUR ONLY RESOURCES, WE MUST MAKE DO.

WHAT ABOUT THE CHESS PIECE ON YOUR RIGHT?

EDGEWOOD
SECURITY PROGRAM
4.0: VERIFICATION
REQUIRE SQLAWKKK

THERE IS NO TIME FOR SUPERFLUOUS CONVERSATION. WE MUST FIND OUR WAY BACK TO OUR BODIES.

THAT'S A PROBLEM. WE'RE ON THE OUTERMOST REGIONS OF CYBERSPACE-- BEYOND THE WASTELANDS*.

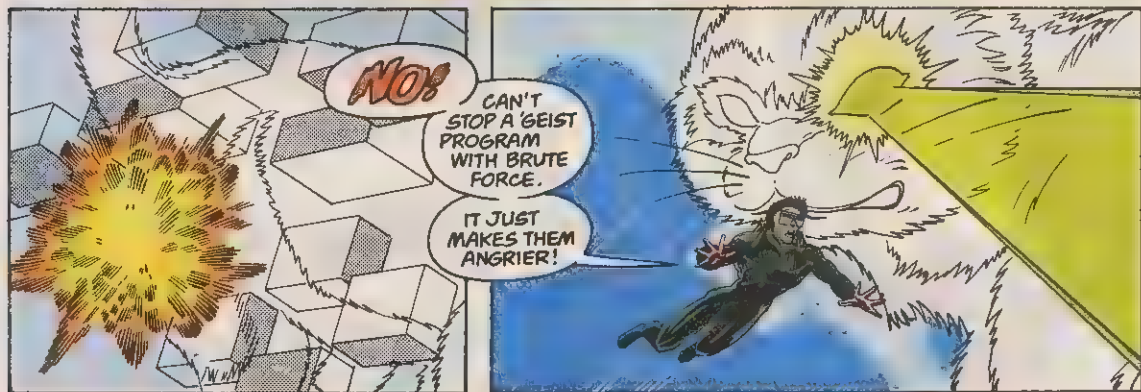
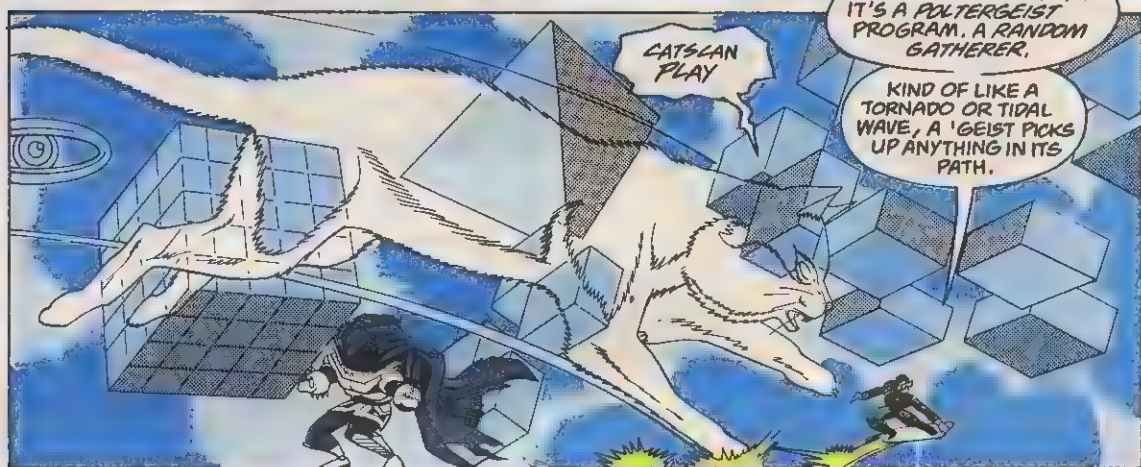
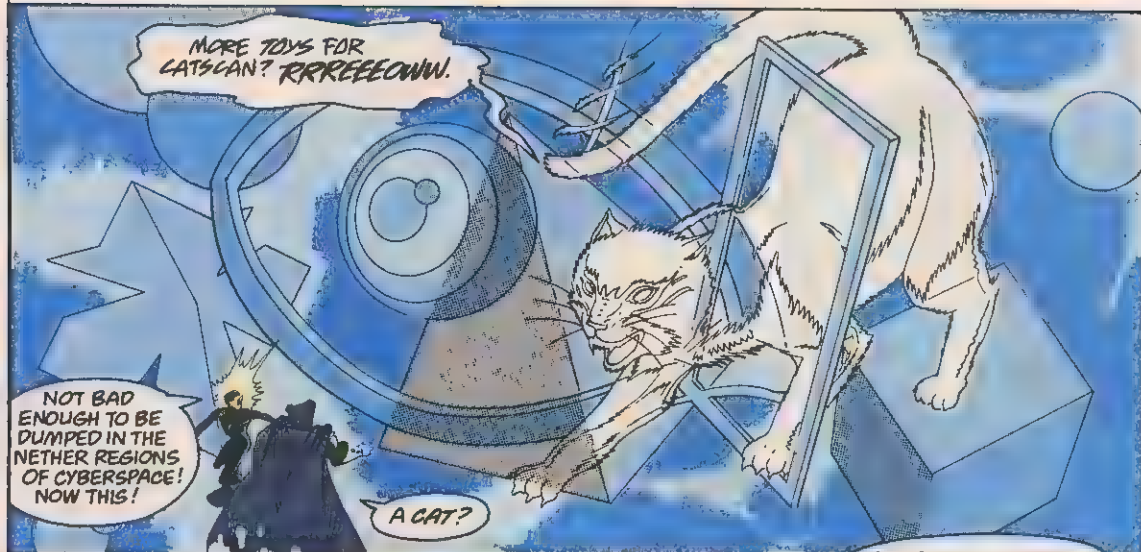
YOU'D HAVE TO BE DUKE STRATOSPHERE TO NAVIGATE THROUGH THIS VOID.

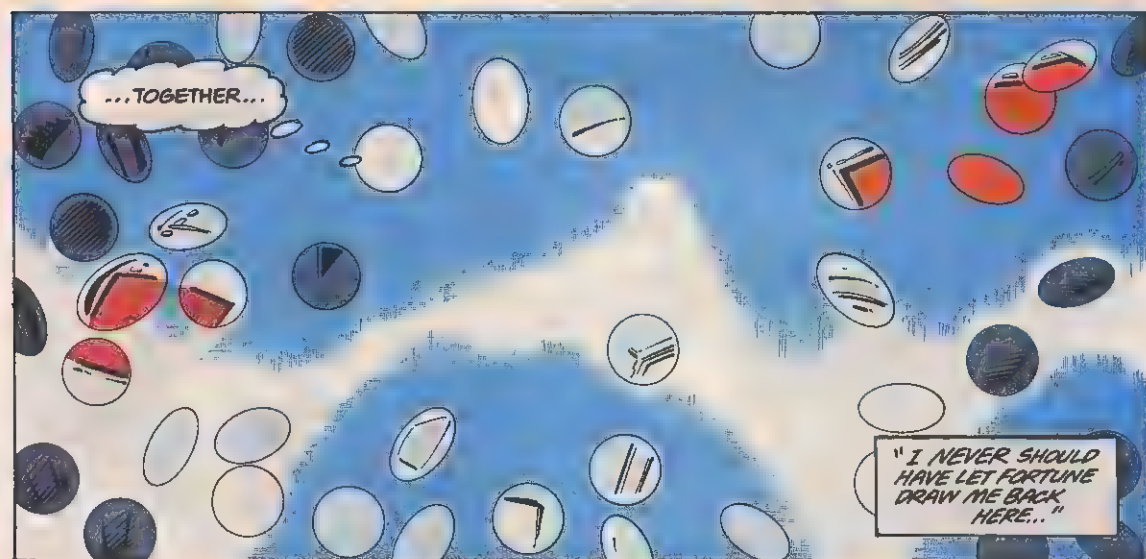
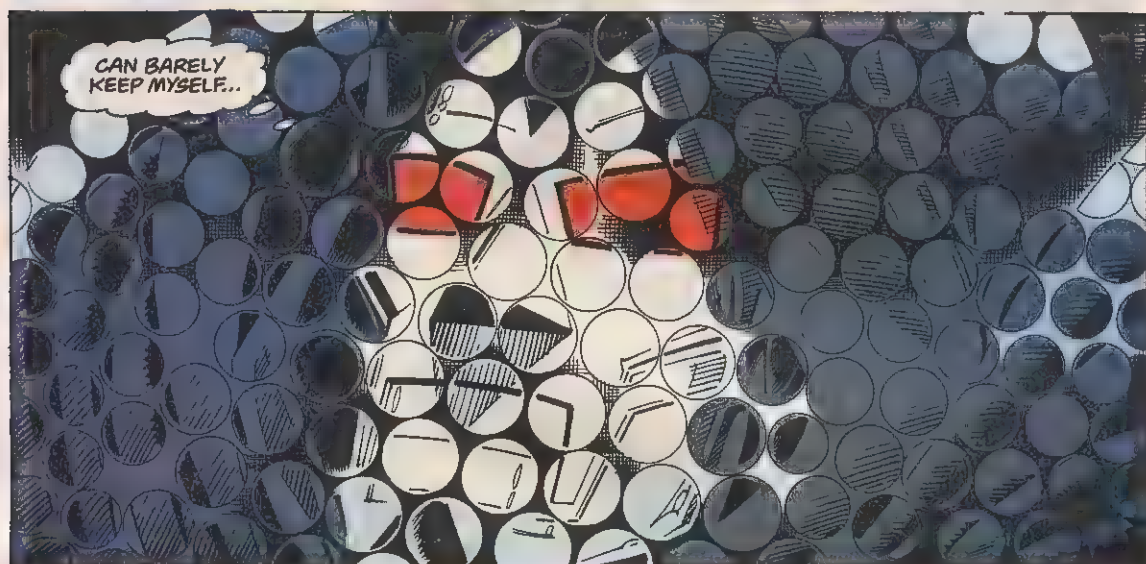
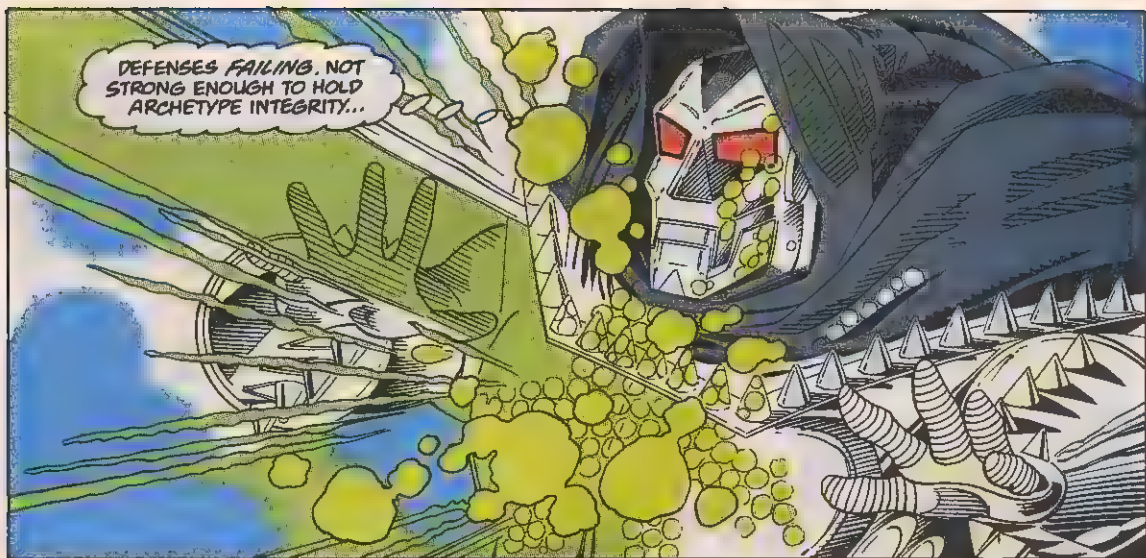
USELESS. AS THE NET UPDATES AND REFORMS, OLD PROGRAMS ARE DISCARDED AND LOST. THIS IS ALL TRASH.

TOLD YOU, USELESS. ANTIQUE. WE NEED TO SNAKE A NAVIGATION PROB TO GET US TO RECOGNIZABLE C-SPACE--

OUR TIME IS LIMITED. I AM UNSURE HOW LONG I CAN MAINTAIN THIS LEVEL OF ARCHETYPE RESOLU--

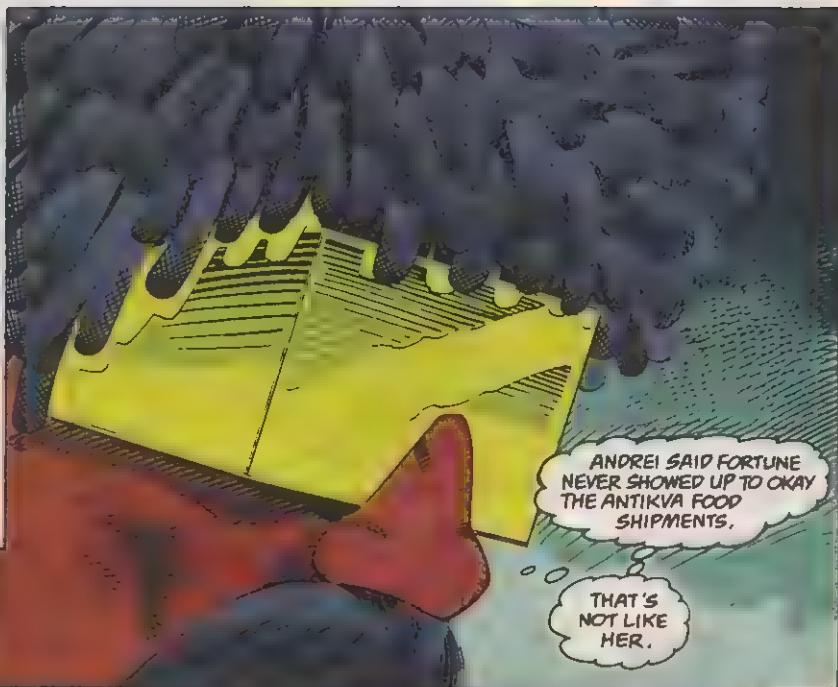
* WHERE DOOM AND WIRE ENCOUNTERED FEVER LAST ISSUE. -- JOEY





I SPEND A LIFETIME
KEEPING PEOPLE AT
ARM'S LENGTH-- AND
NOW IT'S LIKE I'M
SEVENTEEN AGAIN--

-- CHASING
FORTUNE ALL OVER
LATVERIA.



ANDREI SAID FORTUNE
NEVER SHOWED UP TO OKAY
THE ANTIKVA FOOD
SHIPMENTS.

THAT'S
NOT LIKE
HER.

NFRA-RED SPECTRUM
THERMAL TRACE, HIGH

OH NO. THESE MULTI-
BAND LENSES I STOLE
FROM THE ALCHEMAX LAB
SHOW CLEAR HEAT
TRACES OF A STRUGGLE.

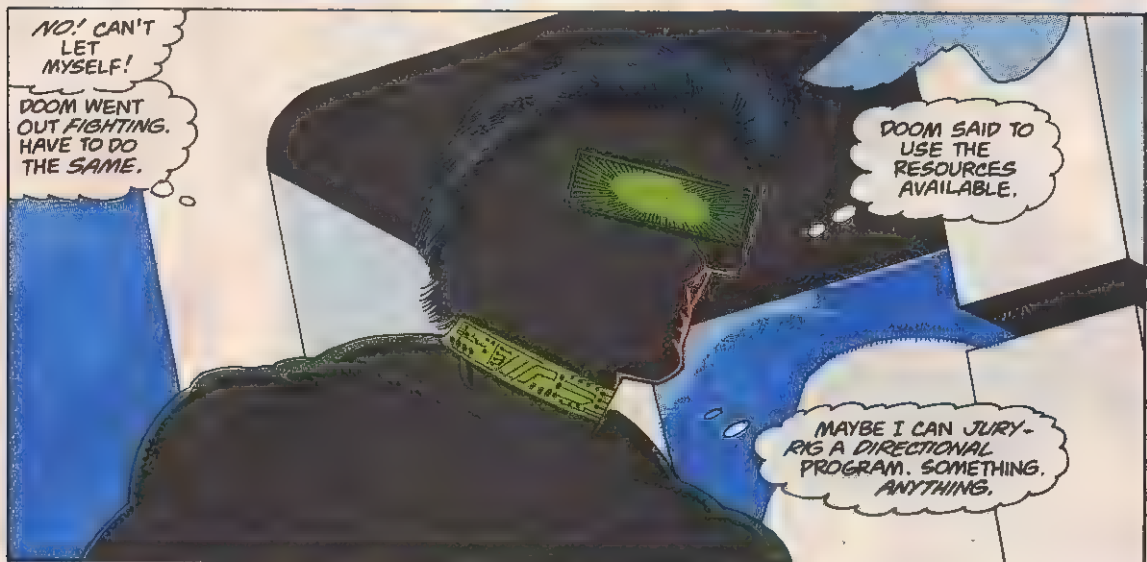
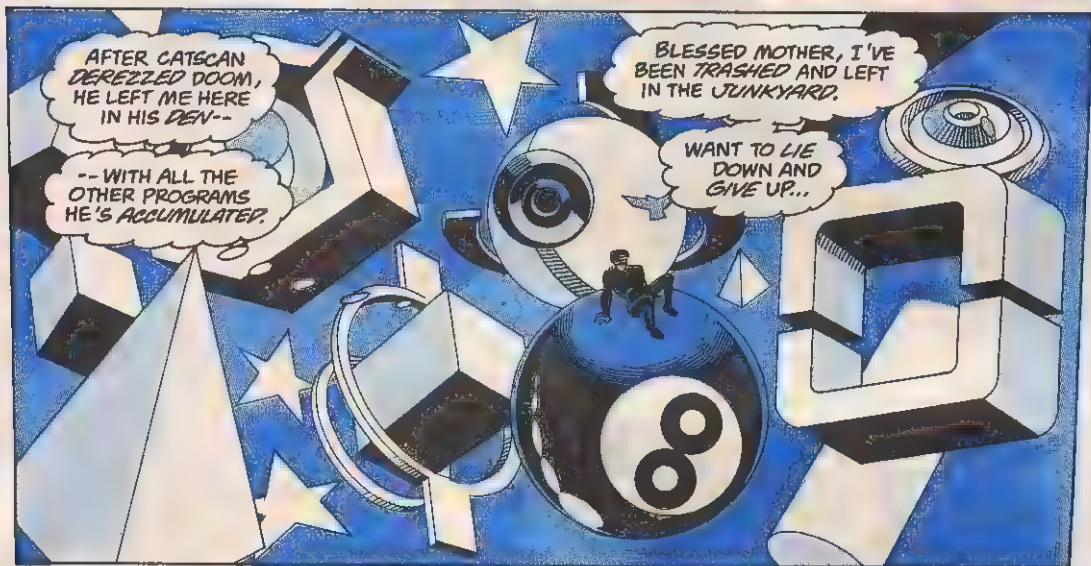
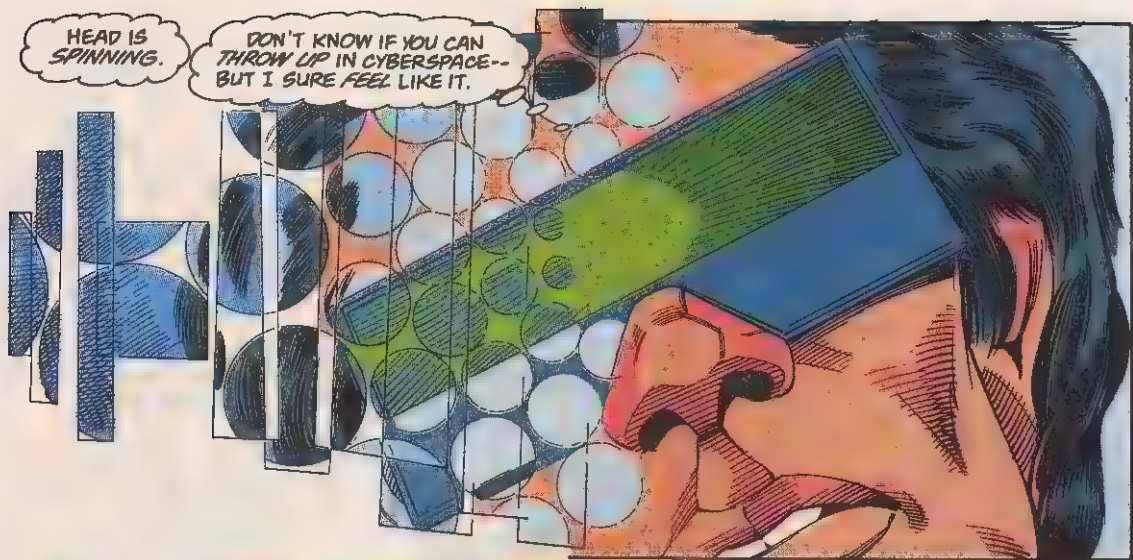
FORTUNE... AND
SOMEONE ELSE...

FIRST DOOM GETS
TAKEN OUT BY A
COMPUTER VIRUS,
NOW FORTUNE
IS KIDNAPPED.

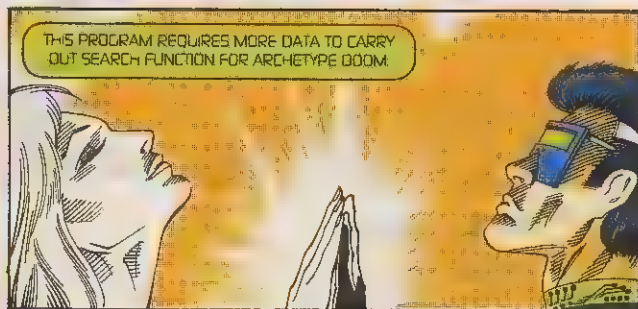
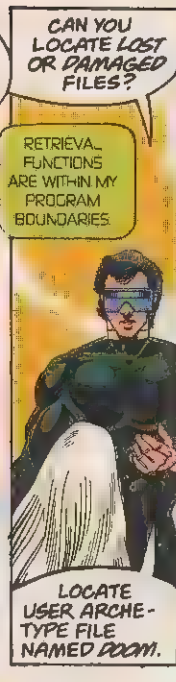
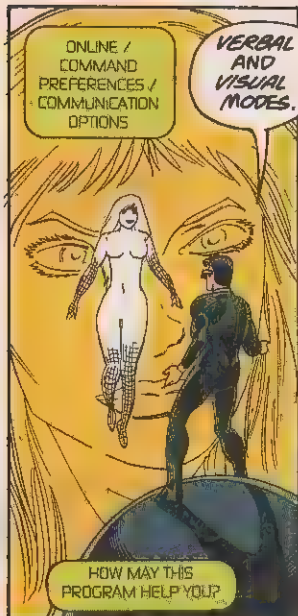
WHOEVER'S
LOOKING TO
DISMANTLE
THE NEW
LATVERIAN
GOVERNMENT'S
DOING A FINE
JOB OF IT.

IF I WERE
SMART, I'D
EXIT THIS OLD
WORLD COUNTRY
RIGHT NOW, AND
FORGET ABOUT
PLAYING WHITE
KNIGHT TO THE
WORLD.

IF I
WERE
SMART.







ARCHETYPE FILE DOOM
INTEGRATION INCOMPLETE.

THIS PROGRAM'S DIAGNOSTIC
SYSTEMS ARE MALFUNCTIONING.

WE CAN'T LEAVE
DOOM HALF-RESOLVED
AND HALF-CONSCIOUS.
CYBER-AUTISM IS A
FATE I WOULDN'T WISH
ON ANYONE.

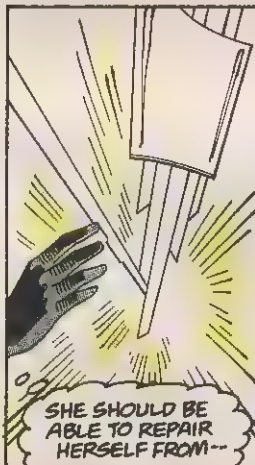
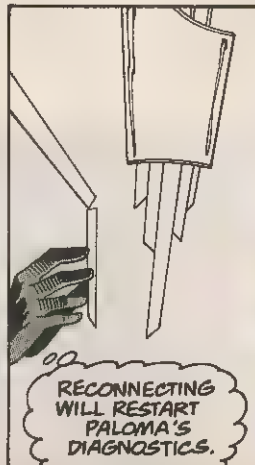
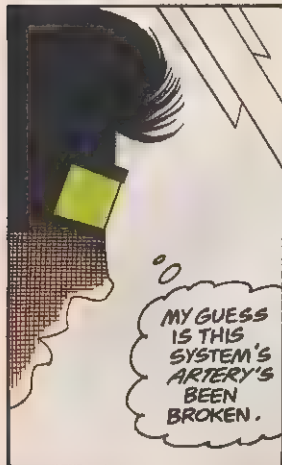
WHAT IF I TROUBLESHOOT
YOUR SYSTEM USING THE
REPAIR TOOLS PROGRAMMED
INTO MY ARCHETYPE?

MANUAL SYSTEM REPAIR
REQUIRES PROGRAMMER
COMMANDED SYSTEM ENTRY
OVER RIDE.

CORE-PROG ENTRY TAC-
SIM TRANSFER
DOWNLOADING USER

I'VE SPENT ALL
MY TIME ON THE
NET GLIDING PAST
SECURITY SYSTEMS IN
ORDER TO CRACK
PROGRAMS--

-- BUT I'VE NEVER
HAD ONE INVITE
ME INTO ITS CORE.



BULLEN BULLETINS

PAUL'S PROGRESS

This is a love story. The year is 1960. The place is Bournemouth on the south coast of Eng and. One frosty morning the schoolyard was suddenly full of them. They were smaller than the ones we were used to. They had spacemen robots, giant spiders, and super heroes. Unlike their paid British counterparts they were in full colour - or rather color. American comics had anded, and for me it might as well have been the Martians themselves. I was enthralled. I was entranced. I was ten. Beg, steal or borrow. I collected every one I could find right through the 60s. Spider's birth Stan the Man. The Merry Marvel Marching Society. I was right there, tapping it all up.

In 1968 I went to college. Freedom. In the summer vacation of 1969 I took my dreams, rose colored glasses, and three pages of drawings to Warren Comics in New York City and lucked out. After Warren it was Marvel, where I worked with some of the Greats I had admired as a kid. Williamson, Sinnott. Coletta was this heaven or was I mistaken? don't think so. A three year run on the CAPTAIN AMERICA book penciling Mark Gruenwald scripts taught me most of what I needed to know about what makes Marvel comics tick. Thanks, Mark.

In a year or so I'll be celebrating my quarter century in comics. The surprise is that it's from a more exciting position than I ever thought possible. When I took over as Editorial Director of Marvel UK two years ago I was given the chance to put something major back into this medium we all love. Well it turned out to be bigger opportunity than I could have imagined. Our new range of comics led by DEATH'S HEAD II was an immediate success, scored by our unique blend of British talent and American know how. But let's look the other way into the future. By the end of the year we will have twenty-five books on the shelves, including our big ones DIE-GUT, DEATH METAL, and BLOODSEED. In spite of all this, the big news is our new, slightly wider imprint Frontier. Be sure not to miss it!

One more thing, the Europeans are coming. There are just as many Marvelphiles on man and Europe as in Britain itself, so look out for hot new pencillers Carlos Pacheco and Sal Larroca, two of Spain's finest. They'll be gracing the pages of DARK GUARD and DARK ANGEL very soon. Remember, the fun has only begun.

Make Mine Marvel!

Paul Neary

Paul Neary

Cheerio, mates! It would be an honour if you would spend a pence or a pound here at Pub Bullpen! If it sounds like we're writing with a British accent, it's because this week's page is devoted to our half-cousins over at Marvel UK!

Paul Neary, Editorial Director of Marvel UK, dropped by our offices this past March, invading our shores just like the Beatles, for a little tea party with the Marvel US editors. Paul said his main purpose in making the trip was to better coordinate the US and UK titles.

Marvel US. Paul said the first wave of Brit books "were done through desperation; we were just trying to survive." Survive and thrive they did, with such popular smashes as DEATH'S HEAD II and MOTORMOUTH. These days, Marvel UK is standing quite well on its own two feet, much like majestic Big Ben, towering over London.

Assisting Paul in his editorial duties are a colourful crew of comical kings and queens, including Stewart Bartlett, Jaqui Papp, Bambos Georgiou, Alan Cowsill, David Leach, Michael Bennett, and Gary Russell. Paul's biggest source of pride is that Marvel UK is attracting some big-name creative talent, whereas before, "we had a very small pool of talent to draw from."

Paul compared the current comics scene in the UK to the way it was in America before the rise of the direct sales market. "All the things that happened in America over the last ten years, we're still waiting to happen in Britain. We hope to increase people's awareness of the collectibility factor of comics, even the speculation aspect." Paul also hopes to see more direct sales outlets open up in the UK.

Paul intends to tone down the guest-appearances of US characters in UK books in the future. When it is done, the intention is to do it with greater continuity. In the past, "there was a bit of lack of communication," noted Paul, "due to the fact we had to get the books out so quickly." Paul promises no more scenes of the Punisher drinking tea!

It is hoped that the US and UK legs of Marvel can work together as closely as Prince Charles and Lady Di once did to produce the best comics ever. Concluded Paul, "We want Marvel UK to be seen as just another editorial unit that happens to be 3,000 miles away!"

THE BULL'S EYE

by Barry Diller & Frank Parker



To that end, Paul and his Managing Director, Vincent Conran, will be meeting four times a year with Marvel US head honchos, Tom DeFalco and Mike Hobson.

Paul has worked on several US titles over the years, including EXCALIBUR, the NICK FURY vs. SHIELD limited series, and a three-year stint on CAPTAIN AMERICA. These days, Paul's freelance work is limited to "just writing BLOODSEED; I haven't got time for drawing."

Up until a few years ago, Marvel UK primarily reprinted US material and did children's material. But in 1991, Marvel UK became a separate entity from

HYPELINE: ON SALE THIS WEEK

- AVENGERS #364: Giant-Man returns in a big way!
- CONAN #270: The Devourer of the Dead is hungry for more!
- CONAN SAGA #76: Five tales of young Conan!
- CYBERSPACE 3000 #1: The U.K. comic that glows in the dark!
- DARK ANGEL #13: You won't see her on a Harley!
- DOCTOR WHO #199: Just like the X-Men and the Avengers, the Doctor turns 30 this year!
- DOOM 2099 #7: Trapped in the Cyverse!
- EXCALIBUR #65: Days of Future Yet to Come!

- G.I. JOE #138: The Ninja Force saga concludes!
- INCREDIBLE HULK #407: Project Penance has escaped!
- MAD DOG #3: Hello, Emily? This is Bob. It's happening again...
- MARVEL AGES #126: Two covers - one for the Bakenverse, one for the Marvel universe!
- MARVEL MASTERPIECES COLLECTION #3 of 4: Someday these works will hang in the finest galleries!
- MARVEL TALES #275: Tricks and treats with the Hobgoblin!
- MIDNIGHT SONS UNLIMITED #2: Cover by Bill Sienkiewicz Unlimited!

- MORBIUS #11: Morby wants to slaughter Slaughter and knock Stonecold stonecold!
- NAMOR ANNUAL #3: Namor and Iron Fist battle the Assassin!
- PUNISHER #90: Frank goes to church... and the glass is stained with blood!
- THE SAM AND MAX SHOW #3 of 3: Sam replaces Max with a clump! Will anyone notice the difference?
- SPIDER-MAN #36: Who ya gonna call? How about Iron Fist, Morbius, and Deathlok?
- SPYKE #1 of 4: He's as brutal as a bulldog!

- STRYFE'S STRIKE FILE SECOND PRINTING: First Stryfe, then Spyke. Obviously the Y's have it!
- SUPER SOLDIERS #4: UK action with US guest stars galore!
- THE TROUBLE WITH GIRLS #2 of 4: Trouble is forever for Lester Girls!
- WARLOCK & THE INFINITY WATCH #18: It'll be the gladiatorial night for the Watch when Pip takes over!
- WHAT IF #51: What if Frank Castle had become Captain America? (How many times have you asked yourself that one?)
- X-MEN #22: The mystery involving Psylocke and Revanche deepens!



SYSTEM OPERATIONAL
ARCHETYPE FILE
DOOM REINTEGRATED.

--HERE.

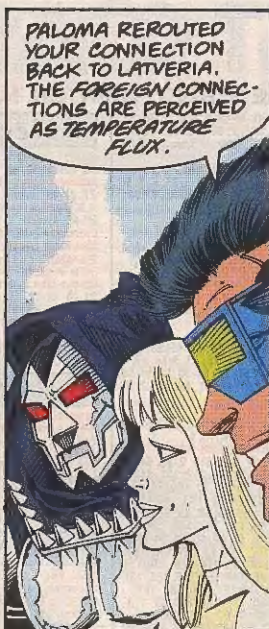
WIRE? WHY AM
I SO-- COLD?



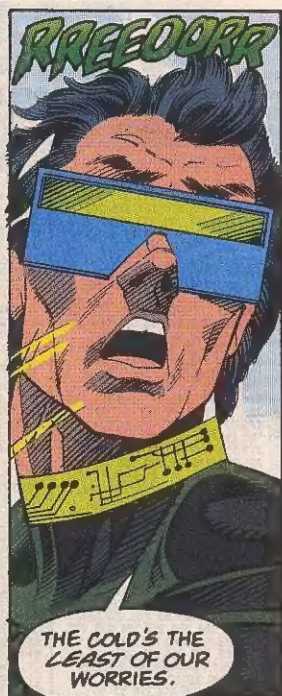
CATSCAN IS
ANGRY! RODENTS
HAVE BROKEN
CATSCAN'S TOYS!

FREEZING--

LOOKOUT!



PALOMA REROUTED
YOUR CONNECTION
BACK TO LATVERIA.
THE FOREIGN CONN-
ECTIONS ARE PERCEIVED
AS TEMPERATURE
FLUX.



THE COLD'S THE
LEAST OF OUR
WORRIES.



CYBERSPACE
DISPLACEMENT.

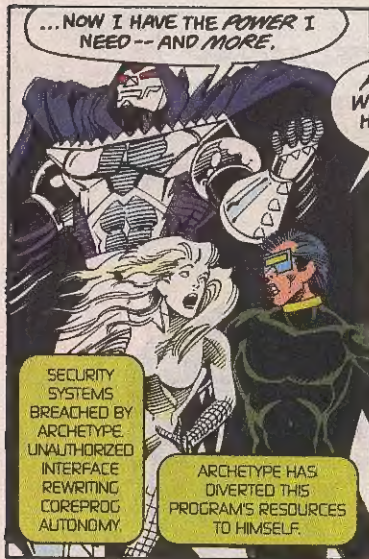
UNANTICIPATED
TAC-SIM
INTERFACE.



ARCHETYPE INITIATING
SYSTEMS DRAIN UNABLE
TO QUIT FUNCTION.



YES...



...NOW I HAVE THE POWER I NEED -- AND MORE.

PALOMA!
WHAT DID
HE DO TO
YOU?

SECURITY
SYSTEMS
BREACHED BY
ARCHETYPE.
UNAUTHORIZED
INTERFACE
REWRITING
COREPROG
AUTONOMY.

ARCHETYPE HAS
DIVERTED THIS
PROGRAM'S RESOURCES
TO HIMSELF.



DO NOT THINK CHANGING
SIZE WILL MAKE CATSCAN
TURN TAIL, LITTLE PROGRAM.

NO, I DO NOT
WANT YOU TO RUN,
KITTY CAT.



YOU CANNOT STOP
CATSCAN IN HIS
OWN DEN.

STOPPING YOU WOULD
BE KIND. I INTEND TO
OBLITERATE YOUR
EXISTENCE.

AND IF 'GEIST
PROGRAMS CAN
FEEL PAIN--

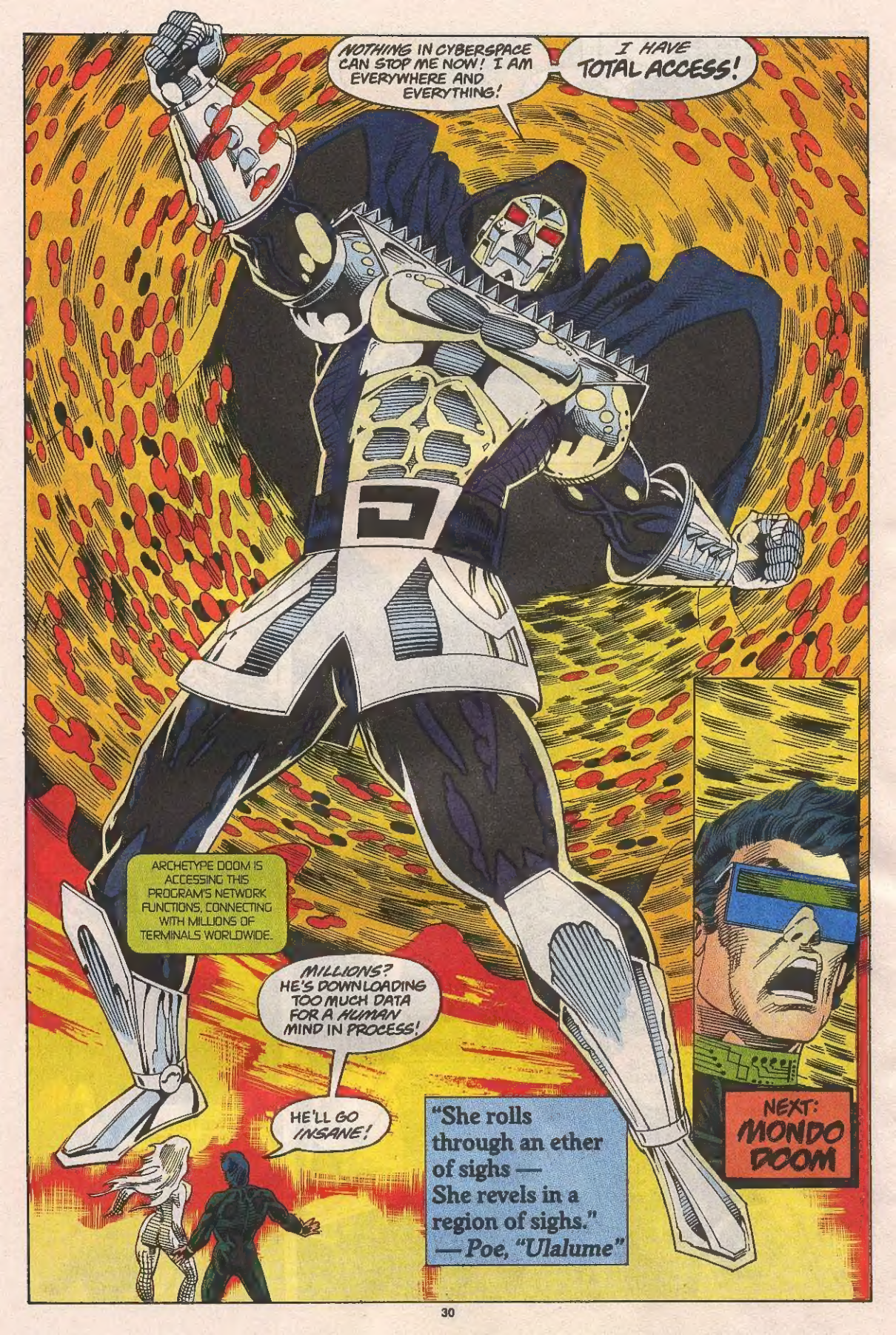
RANDOM ENERGY
ASSAULT DISRUPTING
CATSCAN'S INTERNAL
COHESION--



REEOOWW

--THEN
SUFFER.

SOMETHING'S
WRONG. DOOM
SHOULDN'T HAVE
THAT MUCH
POWER--



NOTHING IN CYBERSPACE
CAN STOP ME NOW! I AM
EVERYWHERE AND
EVERYTHING!

I HAVE
TOTAL ACCESS!

ARCHETYPE DOOM IS
ACCESSING THIS
PROGRAM'S NETWORK
FUNCTIONS, CONNECTING
WITH MILLIONS OF
TERMINALS WORLDWIDE.

MILLIONS?
HE'S DOWNLOADING
TOO MUCH DATA
FOR A HUMAN
MIND IN PROCESS!

HE'LL GO
INSANE!

"She rolls
through an ether
of sighs —
She revels in a
region of sighs."
— Poe, "Ulalume"



NEXT:
MONDO
DOOM

VOICES OF DOOM

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ALL LETTERS FOR PUBLICATION
MUST INCLUDE YOUR NAME &
ADDRESS, ALTHOUGH WE WILL
GLADLY WITHHOLD THAT INFO
UPON REQUEST.

OUT OF MY HEAD

We make much of the cybernetic future this issue. Maybe by mythologizing it in this genre, we make it less scary.

By "scary," I don't mean some kind of Domsday scenario where soulless computers take over the world. I got over that paranoia ages ago. Dr. Asimov used to opine that computers are just tools: if you're not afraid of a ruler, there's no reason to be afraid of a computer.

My fears are more about the societal impact of new technologies on the arts. I see more and more work in this field being done on computers, and I'd hate to see aspirants blocked by being unable to afford the stuff.

I keep reminding myself that there's always a low-tech response to the high-tech. A computer company to rival IBM started in a garage. And as long as they make paper and pencils cheap, anybody will be able to make a comic book.

Dear Voices,

DOOM 2099 is one of the few Marvel titles I read and the only 2099 title. And let me say, it's brilliant.

I've always been a fan of Doom's and have often felt he's a misunderstood character. He's a great man whose aims are simply at odds with those of his so-called peers. Like Magneto, he ended up a villain mostly because of his methods, rather than his goals. DOOM 2099 portrays this positive aspect of his character without weakening it.

Issue #4 was a satisfying conclusion to Doom's battle with Tiger Wyld. It serves to illustrate how intelligent and ruthless Doom can be. I also like the point that any given attack on Doom usually only works once, because he's smart enough to figure out how to neutralize most threats, given time.

Don't reinstitute the concept of Doom robots. Robots are fine for the 20th Century version of Doom, where he may put his proxy in against overwhelming odds, in his fight against certain "heroes." In that situation, robots work because the reader has no vested interest in the villain and he has to escape somehow to fight another day. In 2099 however, Doom's struggle takes on a new meaning for the reader. Being able to assume that a robot is taking all the knocks would weaken the dramatic quality of the story.

Finally, the literary theme to the issue titles and end-quotes lifts the intellectual image of the comic. Keep it up.

Mark "Scunge" Wann
New South Wales, Australia

You've mirrored John and Joey's thinking exactly regarding the Doombots, Scunge. Their day is done. At least we think so, but as Correspondent Dugger points out, we only have Tiger Wyld's word on it.

Dear Voices of Doom,

I am not the typical comic book reader. To begin with, I'm twenty-one years old. I made liberal use of my college's comic book library, and have seen both the best and some of the worst in comics. Then I heard about Marvel's 2099 line. Yawn, I thought as I read the proposed titles.

But DOOM 2099... What? My favorite Marvel character gets his own book? At last! I eagerly picked up the first issues I saw. Latveria as a Third World backwater, Doom traveling forward in time, Doom getting beat, Doom's unscarred visage, one of Doom's numerous secret bases, even a mention of nanotechnology, and of course, the cool new armor!

Suffice it to say, I like DOOM 2099. There are sufficient unresolved questions to keep the plot twists coming, an interesting opponent with enough power to stay Doom, Doom serving and being served by Zefiro on a more equal basis, etc. The quotes at the end of each issue are a very nice touch.

I recommend you decide how much continuity there's going to be between the "official" Marvel Universe and 2099. This is perhaps the biggest issue you need to resolve. If 2099 is Marvel 106 years in the future, what happened to all the super heroes? Are they now all corporate employees? Are there any governments left? What fraction of humanity is homo superior? Is there still a great deal of anti-mutant feeling? What happened to FANTASTIC FOUR, Inc? What happened to Stark?

Just how advanced is technology? You have implied a number of things: Time travel is still very rare. Cybernetics and bioengineering are quite advanced, even if they are limited to corporate personnel. Synthetic food is common. Humanity has spread into the solar system, at least as far as Saturn.

All of this is pretty much within the typical range of comic book logic. There is one serious issue I'd like to address. Nanotechnology was not first invented by the writers of STING. Nanotechnology is a phrase that describes the tendency of humanity's tools to work at an ever-finer level carried to its ultimate end: the precise manipulation of matter on the atomic level. A good sourcebook of what nanotechnology can and cannot do is *Unbounding the Future*, by Eric Drexler. You can probably find a copy of it at the public library. Please read it. Technological change is going at an ever-increasing rate, and nanotechnology's the next big jump.

Doom has a history. In the twentieth century, there was the network of semi-independent Doombots. There may not be any left, but all we have is Wyld's word on that. Perhaps the remaining Doombots are the ones that figured out that attacking Latveria was suicide. It would be interesting to see Doom encounter a last suicide. It would be interesting to see Doom encounter a last surviving and independent Doombot, only to have it die in his arms.

Doom, once the Latverian situation is solved,

may go looking around the world for old friends and foes. This would be the ultimate backup feature for DOOM 2099. Alternatively, these appearances could come about as part of a "Doomquest" storyline, with Doom seeking his past from his old friends and foes.

Compliments on the characterization of Doom thus far. Doom is still Doom, even lost in time and with a shattered memory. Well done, ladies and gentlemen, well done, indeed.

Jay Dugger
303 Defoe
Columbia, MO 65211

All of your questions have been taken into account, Jay, at our last writers' conference. You'll start getting some answers in X-MEN 2099, this August, written by the scribe of this very title. We won't dale out too many answers at once, however, since it's rich material for future stories, as you'll soon see.

Dear Doom Dudes,

Your comic's awesome! Ever since the first issue, you've delivered! Issue #4 was an encore performance!

A few questions, though. Does Poet tie into the stories at all? He seems to be some kind of shape-changing wacko to me. And Tiger Wyld? Frankly, I'm glad you got rid of him. You got rid of him, didn't you?

Well, until Dr. Strange starts making house calls Make Mine Doom!

John Malone
Humble, TX

We'll explain more about Poet and the rest of our new cast — Paloma, the Duke, and Wire especially — as time goes on. John, you're the first reader who hasn't wanted to see Tiger Wyld return somehow! What do the rest of you think?

NEXT ISSUE: Roll call: Catscan (yes, we know he dies this ish), Paloma, Fever, Wire, Xandra, Scratch, Fortune, Haze, DeVargas, Poet, Duke Stratosphere, Lyla, Ravage, Tiana, Dack, and the Punisher. There! We leave anybody out?

MORE OF MARVEL 2099

SPIDER-MAN 2099 #10 Miguel and his family are reunited! Meanwhile, Tyler Stone and his son Kron are reunited! Who says this isn't the Marvel Age of Cross-Continuity?

RAVAGE 2099 #8 This must be the month for reunions! Ravage is "reunited" with his former boss, Henton! The event will not be catered!

THE PUNISHER 2099 #6 You've waited for this battle a long time! Wait no more! It's Jake vs. Multi-Fractor in "Techno-Gladiators!"

2099 UNLIMITED #1 Do not run the risk of serious loss of face by missing the premiere of the Hulk 2099. Final warning!